

Message Text

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46

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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P R 031851Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0397

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

S E C R E T AL AVIV 8914

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MASS US IS

SUBJ: MILITARY RESUPPLY

REF: A) STATE 217354(NOTAL) B) BONN 15715

1. I TOOK OCCASION OF MY MEETING WITH FONMIN EBEN TODAY TO PASS ON INFORMATION IN REFTEL A CONCERNING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GRADUAL PHASE-DOWN OF AIRLIFT AND INCREASED USE OF SEALIFT. I ALSO NOTED DESIRABILITY OF AVOIDING PUBLICITY WHICH COULD FOCUS ON ANY ONE PARTICULAR AMERICAN SHIP PARTICIPATING IN SEALIFT SINCE, DEPENDING UPON ORIGIN OF SHIPMENT, THIS COULD CAUSE UNNECESSARY PROBLEMS IN US RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES (REFTEL B).

2. EBAN EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR INFORMATION. HE NOTED THAT GOI IS INTERESTED IN REASSURING ISRAELI PUBLIC THAT ADEQUATE SEALIFT RESPONSIVE TO ISRAEL'S NEEDS WILL REPLACE AIRLIFT. IN THIS RESPECT, HE NOTED THAT GOI, IN ITS BRIEFING OF ISRAELI NEWSMEN, HAS ALREADY EXPLAINED THAT TERMINATION OF AIRLIFT WAS TO BE EXPECTED IN NORMAL COURSE OF EVENTS AS SEALIFT PICKED UP THE SLACK.

3. HE NOTED THAT GOI COULD APPRECIATE POSSIBLE PROBLEMS CONCERNING USE OF AMERICAN SHIPS AS I OUTLINED. HE STATED GOI DOES NOT INTEND TO FOCUS PUBLIC ATTENTION ON ANY ONE AMERICAN SHIP PARTICIPATING IN SEALIFT.

SECRET

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4. COMMENT: TO JUDGE FROM EBAN'S COMMENTS, ISRAELIS UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE OUR PLANNING RE TERMINATION OF AIRLIFT AND ARE ALREADY CONDITIONING ISRAELI PUBLIC TO RECEIVE NEWS IN POSITIVE MANNER. IF DEPT BELIEVES WE NEED DO

ANY MORE WITH ISRAELIS RE PUBLICITY FOR US SHIPS PARTICIPATING
IN SEALIFT, PLEASE LET US KNOW.
KEATING

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

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